

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA:OCLR

SUBJECT: NASA LEAR JET--PROJECT PORCUPINE

REF: (A) STATE 31098, (B) OTTAWA 0563, (C) STATE 21328

1. ALTHOUGH TIME GETTING SHORT AND EXTENSIVE DELAYS NOW
COULD BEGIN TO JEOPARDIZE PROGRAM SUPPORT, NASA DOES NOT
PLAN TO BEGIN FERRYING OF LEAR JET ON MARCH 4 AS INDICATED
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REF A WITHOUT CLEARER INDICATION THAT STAGING RIGHTS WILL

BE GRANTED.

2. IN ABSENCE CLEARANCE SPARE PARTS HAVE NOT BEEN SHIPPED AHEAD AND WILL BE CARRIED ON BOARD DURING FERRYING ROUTE NECESSITATING REMOVAL OF SOME OF THE SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTATION. INSTRUMENTS WILL THEN BE SHIPPED TO STAGING POINT FOR RE-MOUNTING IN AIRCRAFT--PROBABLY LIMITING TIME AVAILABLE FOR REHEARSAL FLIGHTS.

3. AS EXPLAINED REF C, NASA NOT ONLY PROVIDING AIRCRAFT SUPPORT BUT ALSO INSTRUMENTS IN THE PAYLOAD FOR ARIES THROUGH UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AND MANAGED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARIES VEHICLE. LAUNCH FROM KIRUNA WILL BE

FIRST OPERATIONAL LAUNCH OF THIS NEW VEHICLE WHICH IS CARRYING THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLEX SOUNDING ROCKET PAYLOAD EVER LAUNCHED.

4. FOR ROME AND ATHENS: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE EMBASSY CAN GIVE US TO EXPEDITE CLEARANCE INCLUDING APPROPRIATE DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

5. FOR OTTAWA: DEPARTURE TIME NOW DEPENDENT ON RECEIPT OF CLEARANCES FOR STAGING. AS SOON AS KNOWN WE WILL CABLE IMMEDIATE WITH ROUTE FOR SCIENTISTS TO VIEW PLANE. NOTE PER PARA 2 ABOVE THAT CONFIGURATION IS CHANGING DUE TO DELAYS IN CLEARANCES. AIRCRAFT WILL HOWEVER HAVE PRIMARY CAMERA SYSTEM MOUNTED IN PLACE FOR VIEWING. KISSINGER

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